

## Overview of What's New- posted 6/29/10

As you may have heard, as of July 1, 2010, the Administrative Office of the Courts began using court interpreter certification exams developed by the Consortium for Language Access in the Courts. In this video series we will cover some of the questions you may have about changes in our testing program.

Interpreter Candidate *"I'm an interpreter candidate in Spanish. I've already taken the court interpreter written and oral exams once, and I really want to know how changes in the testing process will affect me. For starters, are the new oral interpreting exams very different?"*

Ayanna Cage, AOC *"The oral interpreting exams are very similar. In fact, a study completed in early 2010 by ALTA Language Services indicated that the court interpreter certification exams used by the Consortium and those previously used by California are similar in structure, content, and level of difficulty. Both programs certify interpreters at the same high standards."*

Interpreter Candidate *"If the exams are so similar, why did you change them?"*

Ayanna Cage, AOC *"By adopting the Consortium exams, California now has a new inventory of tests. Additionally, California is able to pool resources with 40 other Consortium member states to develop new exams and update existing ones."*

Interpreter Candidate *"So, are there any specific changes I should know about?"*

Ayanna Cage, AOC *"Most of the testing process is the same. However, you may want to view the segments specific to the written and oral exams to find out more about what's new with each exam process. Also, you should know that test fees have changed for all exams. New test fees are based on current competitive market rates. As of July 1st, 2010, candidates must pay the test fees for each test taken. Please click "Exam Information" on our website to see the current fees."*